



Street Address  
City, ST ZIP Code

## Disinfecting your private well in 5 easy steps





Follow these instructions to disinfect your private water well from coliform bacteria. This process of disinfection is for biological contaminants only; not for chemicals or minerals contaminants.

## 1. Flush the System

If your water is cloudy, let the water run for 10-15 minutes before disinfecting.

## 2. Chlorinate the well

Use household bleach which is typically has a chlorine concentration of 6%. Do not use ultra concentrated bleach or bleach products with additives or perfumes. The amount of bleach is according to the following:

30 feet= 1.5 cups

60 feet= 2.0 cups

100 feet= 2.5 cups

130 feet= 3.5 cups

If the volume is unknown add 2 cups of

bleach. Mix the bleach in a bucket of water, remove well cap and pour the bleach into your well.

## 3. Mix the bleach with the well water

Attach a hose to the nearest outside faucet and allow the water to run onto the ground for 1-2 minutes until you smell chlorine. Then place the hose in the hole where you poured the bleach, allow the water to run back into the well for 15-20 minutes. Remove the hose and replace the well cap.

## 4. Chlorinate the lines

Turn on each tap attached to the well(kitchen,

Bathrooms, outdoor spigot, etc), starting with the nearest tap to the well, and let the water run until you smell bleach, turn off and then go to the next tap. Turn off electricity to the pump and let sit overnight.

## 5. Flush the chlorinated water out of the system.

Choose any outdoor spigot and let the water run onto the ground, away from your septic system (also keep water flow from going into creeks, streams, or where fish or vegetation can be harmed), until you no longer smell bleach.

Wait 3-4 days after flushing the bleach out to collect coliform bacteria samples. You may need to repeat this process several times before coliform test results are "satisfactory".

### For more information:

DSHS website:

[www.dshs.state.tx.us](http://www.dshs.state.tx.us)

Region 8 Health Services:

210-949-2000